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MUSICAL

China Mail

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Rainfall 0.00 in Humidity 38

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To-day's closing rate 2/4 9/16
To-day's opening rate 2/4 9/16

THE AUSTIN SEVEN.



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No. 19,352 二拜禮 號五廿月一十年四十二百九千一英

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1924.

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BRITAIN AND EGYPT.

PRECAUTIONS TAKEN IN SUDAN. MOVEMENT OF WAR-VESSELS.

(Reuter's Service.)

LONDON, November 24.

At present there are about two
battalions of British troops in the
Sudan, in addition to the Sudanese
troops, which now form the
Sudanese defence force.

There is roughly a division of
British troops in Egypt, where the
Egyptian forces number about
7,000.

The situation is now in the hands
of Field-Marshal Lord Allenby.
Martial law prevails in the Sudan.

Sailing Orders.

H.M.S. "Iron Duke" and
H.M.S. "Malaya" have been
ordered from Malta to Alexandria
and Port Said respectively. The
light cruiser, H.M.S. "Caradoc,"
now in Greek waters, and two
destroyers from Port Said have
been ordered to proceed to Suez.
H.M.S. battleship "Benbow,"
which was expected at Malta from
Alexandria on December 3, has
been ordered to remain at Alex-
andria.

Customs Occupied.

ALEXANDRIA, November 24.
The occupation of the Customs
House and premises was effected
by 100 marines without incident.
The ordinary routine business has
not been affected.

New Egyptian Cabinet.

CAIRO, November 14.
The list of Ministers has been
completed and is of a distinctly
moderate complexion. The names
are:

Premier and Minister of Interior,
Ziwar Pasha.
Foreign Affairs, Ahmed Zulficar.
Minister of Justice, Zaki Abou
Said.
Pious Foundations, Sidky.
Minister of War, Sadek Yehia.
Attitude of France.

PARIS, November 24.
The Foreign Office intimates
that, in view of the Anglo-French
Treaty of 1904 respecting Morocco
and Egypt, France will maintain
strict neutrality in any Anglo-
Egyptian conflict.

French diplomatic circles hope
it will be possible to submit the
Anglo-Egyptian dispute to
arbitration by the League of
Nations.

Although Egypt is not a mem-
ber of the League, the same
procedure might advantageously
be followed as adopted in the
Vina dispute.

British Opinion.

LONDON, November 24.
With reference to suggestions
to submit the Anglo-Egyptian issue
to the League of Nations, British
officials point out that by the exist-
ing diplomatic understanding, all
matters lying within the province
of four reserved points—namely
the Sudan, protection of Suez
Canal, foreign interests, and
defence of Egypt—are matters of
domestic policy within the British
Empire; therefore, they are outside
the competence of the League of
Nations.

CRISIS IN EGYPT.

CUSTOMS AT ALEXANDRIA TO BE SEIZED.

(Reuter's Service.)

LONDON, November 24.

The firm stand adopted by the
Government with reference to
Egypt meets practically the
unanimous approval of Britain
and opinion is expressed
that both in substance and
tone the communications will un-
questionably be approved by the
British people overseas. The
severity of the important demands
of the British Government is con-
sidered fully justified by all the
circumstances. It is emphasised
that the matter admits of no
foreign participation; on the other
hand, Britain is defending the
interests of all civilized nations.

CAIRO, November 24.

The indemnity demanded has
been paid, accompanied by a
Note protesting against the
demands for the withdrawal of the
Egyptian troops from the Sudan
and the withdrawal of opposition
to the wishes of the British
Government in regard to the
protection of foreign interests in
Egypt which are characterised as
unjustifiable.

To Seize Customs.

Lord Allenby has informed
Zaghlul that as the first measure to
be taken owing to the non-
acceptance of all the British
demands, British forces have been
instructed to occupy the
Alexandria customs.

The Cabinet has resigned. The
King has accepted the resignation
and summoned Siwar Pasha, the
President of the Senate, who has
consented to form a Cabinet.

BOXING.

ERNIE IZZARD DEFEATS JACK KIRK.

(Reuter's American Service.)

LONDON, November 24.

At the National Sporting Club,
in a 20 round contest for the
British light-weight championship
and the Londale Belt, Ernie
Izzard, of Hensdale, Belt, Ernie
Izzard, of Hensdale, defeated
Jack Kirk, of Doncaster. The
decision was given on points.

AMERICAN LABOUR.

ADHERES TO NON-PARTY POLICY.

(Reuter's Service.)

EL PASO, November 24.

At its annual convention, the
Federation of Labour, by an over-
whelming majority, rejected the
proposal to support a new political
party. It reaffirmed its adherence
to a strict non-partisan policy.

MOROCCO.

SPANISH WITHDRAWAL IS CAUSE OF ANXIETY.

HEAVY LOSSES REPORTED.

(Reuter's Service.)

PARIS, November 24.

A telegram from Tangier states
that the withdrawal of 15,000
Spanish troops to Tetuan occasioned
keen anxiety.

Rearguard Cut Off.

Notwithstanding the evacuation
from Sheshuan was carried out
with all material, the rearguard
was attacked when it reached
Daracoba with resulting heavy
Spanish losses.

General Berenguer was wounded
immediately after he arrived on
the battlefield. The troops thence
struggled to Souk-el-arba where
they were surrounded and subse-
quently forced to retreat along
mountain paths. The Spanish
lines of communications have been
cut. Hasty preparations are being
made at Tetuan to assist the
Spanish force in retreat.

SHIPPING DEADLOCK.

FAILURE OF ARBITRATION AT MELBOURNE.

(Reuter's Service.)

MELBOURNE, November 24.

The court of arbitration, sum-
moned in connection with the
maritime strike, has come to a
deadlock. Both parties declare they
are unable to get men to work.
The Judge pointed out he is
powerless, neither side admitting
the Court's jurisdiction.

GIFT TO HOLLAND.

ROCKEFELLER TO AID SCIENCE.

(Reuter's Service.)

THE HAGUE, November 24.

The Dutch Minister of Education
has announced that the Govern-
ment has been most glad to accept
the offer of the International
Education Board of the Rocke-
feller Foundation of \$100,000 to
equip a natural science laboratory.
Government has also agreed to the
donor's condition that an annual
subsidy of \$10,000 shall be placed
at the disposal of the laboratory.

PIRATE EVIL.

BRITISH FLAG FLOUTED.

Cement Tug Seized.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Falkai, Kongsu, Nov. 24.

Although she flew the British
flag, the tug "Kin Lee" has been
pirated near Siu-lam, a flourish-
ing town in the river delta at the
boundary between the Heungshan
and Shuntak districts.

She was carrying a cargo of
cement at the time. Two of the
crew were forcibly taken away for
ransom.

Soony Boat Stopped.

That the outlaws are no respec-
tors of persons—or flags—is evi-
dent from an attack on the
Standard Oil Co.'s tug "Comet,"
which when towing a lighter load-
ed with kerosene, was attacked
near the same part of the river,
on her way down to Hongkong.

Successfully boarding the tug
and lighter, the pirates forced the
crew to break open the Customs
seals but found only kerosene
inside the containers.

Disappointed at having to leave
with empty hands, one of the gang
struck a sailor with the butt of
his rifle. The victim is now in
hospital with a broken rib.

EMPIRE TRADE.

AIM TO DISSIPATE PREJUDICES.

STATEMENT BY AMERY.

(Reuter's Service.)

LONDON, November 24.

Speaking at the Empire Pro-
ducers' luncheon, Mr. L. S. Amery,
Colonial Secretary, announced that
the Government would carry out
the 1923 Imperial Conference's
preference scheme.



MR. L. S. AMERY.

The Secretary for the Colonies
further hinted at opportunities
within the general fiscal system of
Britain to give further extensions
of preferences.

The Government, said Mr.
Amery, also aimed to clear
channels for Empire trade, which
were choked by various prejudices
against imperial preferences and
vested interests.

GERMAN FINANCE.

PAPER CONVERTED INTO GOLD.

(Reuter's Service.)

BERLIN, November 24.

At a general meeting of the
Deutsche Bank a proposal was
sanctioned for conversion of the
paper mark capital 1,500,000,000
into a gold capital of 150,000,000
marks, of which 40,000,000 marks
were sold to a London
banking group, headed by the
Schroeder Company. The shares
will be disposed of in foreign
markets at the most favourable
moment.

PAPER MAIL IN.

The "Hamburg Echo," with the
newspaper mail (London, Octo-
ber 23) arrived here at 2 p.m.

HONGKONG'S BEGGARS.

THE POLICE VAN MAKES A TOUR.

UNSIGHTLY FIGURES REMOVED.

Instead of nearly freezing to
death in the chilly streets, our
street mendicants were given a
joy-ride this morning in the local
"Black Maria."

In charge of Sergeant Nolloth,
an Indian sergeant and a driver,
the police motor-van went out to
the highways and the byways to
bring in the poor creatures, some
of whom make their homes in the
most conspicuous parts of the
streets.

After a short run, about half a
dozen mendicants had been
collected and put inside the van
where they were safe from the
wind.

Going up Queen's Road Central,
the van turned into Pedder Street
and along Des Vaux Road. Here
it stopped to pick up a human
derelict, reclining against the wall
of the new P. & O. building.

It is believed that the recent
campaigns in Kiangsu, Chekiang
and around Shanghai, coupled
with the usual tendency of
wandering tribes in Central China
provinces to migrate south at this
time of the year, has resulted in
an influx of mendicants larger
than usual—hence this morning's
police measures.

Enforced demobilisation in
Chinese territory, just beyond the
British border on the mainland, in
the case of several detachments
of pro-Sun defenders, has also
brought a number of mendicants
into the Colony.

Behind the Harbour Office there
was found a man covered with
sores. He displayed his badge
and a scroll explaining how he had
been disarmed by the Chan
Kwing-ming invaders—and ask-
ing for charity. To a passer-by
who inquired what had happened
to his rifle, the man replied that
if he still had it, he would be with
his colleagues who had turned
bandit. This despite the fact
that his health had been impaired.

When the "Mail" man passed
the spot, his bundle was still
propped up against the wall but
he was not there. Evidently, he
had been spotted by the van and
had been carried off.

Down at the Western market,
a young man who appeared to be
quite able-bodied, was treating a
small crowd to an exhibition of
classical penmanship. His writ-
ing materials comprised a stub of
chalk and some ruled spaces on the
concrete pavement. The palm of
his hand served as an eraser.

He was a scholar whose home
had been burnt at Lotien when
the Kiangsu-ites advanced on
Shanghai.

With the coppers that he had
collected he went off to buy a meal.
Then a practical joker—clad only
in a singlet full of holes and a pair
of threadbare cotton trousers—
took his place. His attempts to
teach Chinese writing brought
laughter but no cash.

With his pitch extending along
Wyndham Street to Wellington
Street, an old Northerner
who claims association with a
"joss" on his back was on his
knees asking for alms. He
did not seem to mind the cold as
he wore several thickly padded
rough gowns. An attempt to
obtain information from him was
abortive, the "Mail" man's knowl-
edge of the Anhui province
dialect being limited to a few
words.

As far as is known the Police
give all rounded-up beggars a meal
and repatriate them at the first
opportunity, the majority travel-
ling, under escort, by the night
boat to the 9th police district
station, in Canton, close to
Shameen. Unfortunately these
efforts are often nullified as the
"old hands" return to their hunt-
ing grounds by the next steamer.

PARTNERS AT ODDS.

QUESTION OF REFUDIATING LIABILITY.

An alleged partner who re-
pudiates liability in respect of a
firm against which a judgment for
levying of execution was given in
court appeared as defendant in a
Summary jurisdiction action before
Mr. Justice H. H. J. Gompertz this
morning. Mr. H. S. Fitzroy, in-
structed by Mr. G. R. Haywood,
appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. C. G.
Alabaster K.C. for Lau Ping-lam,
the defendant.

The firm concerned is the Mee
San soap factory, Hongkong, to
whom the plaintiff supplied fat.

The partnership book was pro-
duced by Mr. Fitzroy and extracts
were read from it according to
which the defendant was a partner
with \$1,000 capital.

The plaintiff gave evidence and
cross-examined by Mr. Alabaster,
said that he had chosen to proceed
against this partner rather than
two other acknowledged ones be-
cause he had always paid the bills.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.

"THE GOLDEN GIFT."

A fascinating story of treasure is
that unfolded in "The Golden
Gift," Alice Lake's latest starring
picture for Metro, which will be
shown at the Queen's Theatre.
But the treasure is not that usually
associated in the public mind with
golden gifts; it is a treasure far
more precious, about which is
woven a stirring story of love and
adventure. It is the story of an
open singer who, with a young
child to support, finds herself thrown
upon her own resources through the
desertion of her husband. She goes
to a border dance hall and, leaving
the child to be taken care of at the
Mission, becomes a famous opera
singer. At the height of her suc-
cess she discovers that the man she
loves has become a guardian to
her child and she finds the treasure
she seeks is really a golden gift.

The picture gives Alice Lake a
chance to display her wonderful
dancing ability, and this star, who
won fame for herself by her artistic
dances before going to the screen,
takes full advantage of it in her
latest picture.

BRITISH EXHIBITION.

TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1925.

(Reuter's Service.)

LONDON, November 24.

The members of the executive
council of the British Empire
Exhibition has passed a resolution
recommending the continuance of
the Exhibition in 1925. They have
also authorised the existing Board,
with the addition of the Duke of
Devonshire to make arrangements
to that end.

"LITTLE OLD NEW YORK."

THE STAR'S EXCITING FILM.

Not the least of the many
incidents in the story which the
Star Theatre offers its patrons this
week, is the one of the whipping
post, where the heroine, disguised
as a boy, undergoes the penalty of
having stopped a prize fight at its
most exciting stage, by ringing a
fire bell—this in the interests of
her favourite. The heroine is
rushed through an excited mob of a
thousand men to the post and there
takes her "medicine." This is
quite the real thing and it is re-
corded that when Marion Davies,
who takes the leading part, under-
took this little bit of realism, she
refused to employ an understudy
and suffered the punishment to
such an extent that the marks of
it are with her to this day. The
fortunes of the little Irish girl in
America, who assumes disguise
in order to retain the wealth which
should have gone to her invalid
brother who died on the way out,
has been followed with great
interest by crowds of patrons. The
picture will be shown at the Star
until Thursday next.

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Queen's Road,
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continue our for-
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Hongkong, Tuesday, Nov. 25, 1924.

MR. EDE'S SCHEME.

Whatever opinions may be held regarding Mr. C. Montague Ede's proposed Industrial Association—and we have no doubt, looking to the very nature of the scheme, that views will vary a great deal—there can be only one sentiment concerning the public spirit that has actuated the promoter; namely that it is worthy of his record. Nor can there be any two opinions about the care and thought that have been devoted to working out the details. Mr. Ede has presented the Colony with a very arresting scheme, a scheme which, if it does nothing else, will centre public attention upon the need for industrial arbitration as never before. But many are confident that Mr. Ede's scheme will achieve a vast deal more than this, that it will indeed prove an enormous stride towards industrial harmony. Already, we are told, there are five thousand people eager to become members of the Association, and if it be said that these are mindful only of the personal benefits that will accrue to them under the employment, insurance, and recreation provisions of the scheme, then it can safely be claimed that not a few among the general public, taking the detached view, will hail the scheme as the beginning of a new era in the Colony's industrial history. Others, of course, as Mr. Ede doubtless realizes, will view the scheme with frank scepticism, holding that it is altogether too impractical. Neither view, however, is correct. The scheme, as Mr. Ede

preliminary notice shows, is only a matter of time. Therefore, since the scheme is bound to be carried into effect, further comment can be reserved until a closer study of the details has been possible. Already certain obvious criticisms suggest themselves and doubtless others will become manifest. Consequently, although we have the warmest admiration for Mr. Ede's motives and for the evident care he has put into his labour of love, we should like to weigh his plan very carefully before giving our considered verdict, especially as the scheme, besides its benevolent side, has a financial aspect which although not placing it altogether on the level of other companies that invite public subscription, does remove it from the sphere of the purely benevolent.

Reforms For China.

Prospective President Tuan Chi-jui, Reuter informs us, has issued a circular telegram in the customary strain of his predecessors. He enumerates the evils of former administrations and expresses intention to institute all-round reforms. Tuan states that a Reorganisation Conference will be held in Peking within a month. Delegates from the provinces are expected to attend, discuss the present situation and decide upon what measures shall be taken to restore order in China. It is further proposed to hold a National Conference within six months to deal with fundamental questions. When the work of the latter is completed, Tuan Chi-jui intends to retire from public life. Presumably the latter statement is meant to imply that Tuan is not particularly anxious to become President; it does not necessarily mean that he would refuse to stand for election. As noted above, Tuan's telegram is couched in the familiar "verbiage" of his predecessors, and until his proposed reforms are given in detail, it is impossible to judge whether he has any workable scheme whereby it will be feasible to introduce the much needed reforms. One point in favour of Tuan is that he has few really powerful political enemies at the moment. If the Christian Army and Chang Tso-lin stand staunchly by him, the prospects for genuine reforms are distinctly bright.

Juries For China.

While on the subject of the "compatibility" of juries in Hongkong and other British ports in the Far East, it is interesting to recall an incident of a trial several years ago. Accused of wounding a European sergeant after a Kowloon City robbery, a Chinese had been arrested, and the next morning while en route for a launch leaving the New Territories, his alibi was that he had passed the evening from an hour

before the robbery till long after—at an opium divan. The divan keeper was called and his evidence was that he was asleep from about sunset till midnight; he saw the accused enter but could not say if the accused left while he (the divan-keeper) slept. In summing up, His Lordship (it was either Sir William Rees Davies or Mr. Justice Gompertz) drew particular attention to the prisoner's statement; going so far as to explain that in most cases, people said they were in Canton or Macao; but in the case under review, prisoner had given a very definite account of his movements. A verdict of "guilty" was brought in by a jury comprising, mostly, if not entirely, Europeans and the man got something like seven years' imprisonment. If the jury had been aware of the fact, that an opium divan keeper has his busiest hours between sunset (after the evening meal) and midnight, they might have doubted his statement as to having been asleep. Not wishing to run foul of the Police, he might have decided not to commit himself one way or the other. However, that knowledge of Chinese sociology might have made a difference. In briefly mentioning this case, it should be stated that the wounded sergeant picked the man out at an identification parade. Nevertheless, it serves to bring up the question of the best interests being served in having only Europeans to sit on juries to hear cases in which the parties are Chinese. It is not often, of course, that this happens, but it is quite possible for it to occur under the present system.

SHADOWS BEFORE

Coming Events Advertised
in The Mail.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

November 25.—Cinema Theatre:
"The Count," "Easy Street," "The Immigrant."

November 25.—Star Theatre:
"Little Old New York."

November 25.—World Theatre:
Diana Kazenne in "The Martyr Queen."

November 25.—Queen's Theatre:
Alice Lake in "The Golden Gift."

November 25.—Hongkong St.
Andrew's Society, last practice
dance at the City Hall.

November 25.—St. John's Catho-
dral Organ recital postponed.

November 26.—Lantern show for
children at Helena May Institute,
5.30 p.m.

December 19.—Children's Xmas
Party, at Helena May Institute,
4 p.m.

SPORT.
November 29.—Hongkong
Jockey Club's seventh extra race
meeting.

SALES AUCTIONS.
November 25.—Lammett Bros.,
at Sales Room, Postage stamps,
5.15 p.m.

November 26.—Lammett Bros.,
at Sales Room, fine private collec-
tion of Chinese curios, 2.30 p.m.

November 27.—Lammett Bros.,
at H.K. & K.W. and Godown Co.,
Ltd., West Point, antimony ore, 11
a.m.

November 28.—Lammett Bros.,
at Godown No. 18, H.K. & K.W.
Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.,
Kowloon, miscellaneous goods,
10.30 a.m.

OTHER MEETINGS.
November 26.—Usual Public lec-
ture at the H.K.L.T. Society, 16,
Queen's Road, 5.45 p.m.

November 26.—General meeting
of members of the Institution of
Engineers and Shipbuilders in the
Institute, 6 p.m.

December 23.—General meeting
of shareholders of the Rah Syndi-
cate Ltd., Prince's Building,
Chater Road, noon.

SALE OF WORK.
December 4.—Sale of Work, in
the Compound of Union Church,
3 p.m.

STREET ACCIDENTS.

LIST OF CASUALTIES FOR YESTERDAY.

While alighting from a tram car
in motion at Praya East yesterday,
a Chinese woman had a fall and
sustained injuries to her head.
She was taken to the Government
Civil Hospital.

Boy Run Over.
A small Chinese boy was ad-
mitted to hospital with injuries to
his hand. He was knocked down
by a truck in Eastern Street yester-
day, one of the wheels passing over
him.

Hit By Lorry.
A Chinese was taken to the
Kwong Wah Hospital yesterday,
suffering from injuries caused by
being struck down by a motor
lorry at Wooning Street.

For Coughs and Colds.
When the weather is cold and
windy, it is easy to catch a cold
and get a cough. Chamberlain's
Cough Syrup is the best remedy
for coughs and colds. It is
pleasant to take and cures
coughs and colds quickly.

ATTEMPTED MURDER?

ALLEGED PLOT AGAINST GENERAL WONG.

GUARD SHOT DOWN.

Sensational Circus Feat in Hotel.
(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Canton, November 24.

Reticence on the part of those
able to throw light on the matter
has prevented confirmation of a
report current last night that
firing broke out in the fifth floor
of the Oriental Hotel where, it is
stated, an attempt was made to
assassinate General Wong Shui-
hong of Wuchow.

According to the version of one
who claims to have seen most of
what occurred, General Wong had
been invited to dinner at the Hotel
when fifty or sixty Kwangsi body-
guards rushed his room. One of
the general's own guards made a
determined stand in a verandah,
holding the assailants at bay until
his ammunition was expended
when he was shot down. In the
meanwhile Wong made good his
escape.

The report also says that about
fourteen of the attackers were
wounded.

Hotel Searched.

Subsequently, troops alleged to
belong to General Lau Tzu-wan's
army—Lau is commander-in-chief
of the pro-Sun Kwangsi army in
Kwangtung and has been appointed
Governor of Kwangsi province—
by Dr. Sun—searched the hotel,
carefully going through the rooms
on the fifth floor where Wong
stayed.

A thrilling account is given of
the escape effected by one of the
would-be victim's bodyguards. He
had been winged in the firing but
taking advantage of the confusion
he rushed to the lift, firing a
volley from a Mauser to keep off
his attackers. Opening the lift-
gate, he jumped out to the lift-
rope down which he swarmed to
the ground floor and out into
safety.

The hotel servants' quarters
were also subjected to a rigorous
search but nothing was found.

One or two whose reports are
not substantiated to any extent,
claim that the searchers took
away property from the rooms
they searched, the inmates having
left in the panic.

The wise ones connect the
attempt on the general's life with
the recent trend of developments
at Wuchow and Kwangsi where
opposition is said to have been
forthcoming against Lau's
appointment as Governor of the
province.

Up-Country Clash.

Canton, November 24.
Yet another report has reached
Canton of regular soldiers having
been worsted in a brush with
Merchants' Volunteers and Village
Guards up-country.

At Koon Shan, General Li Fook-
lam's troops are stated to have
met with disaster. About 400
rank and file were disarmed and
two launches and four junks be-
longing to them were captured.
The number disarmed may have
been exaggerated.

SKIPPER FINED.

NEGLECTS TO SIGN ON CREW.

PLEA OF GUILTY.

Captain David Morgan of the
Hongkong-Kongmoon steamer
"Tai Lee" was fined \$25 at the
Marine Court by Lieut. Com-
mander G. F. Hole, R.N. (Magis-
trate) this morning.

That being the master of the
"Tai Lee," he had neglected to
enter into an agreement with the
seventeen seamen in the form and
manner provided by the Merchant
Shipping Act, was the charge pre-
ferred against him, and to which
he pleaded "guilty."

The name of Mr. G. W. Coysh,
Deputy Shipping Master, appear-
ed as complainant.

COUNTERFEIT PLANT.

SEIZURE AT COCHRANE STREET.

Dies for making Hongkong
copper cents, Manchu Dynasty
copper cents (still legal tender in
China) and French Indo-China
notes have been seized by the
Criminal Intelligence Department
at No. 9, Cochrane Street, which
is in the centre of the town, and
only a few minutes' walk from
the Central Police Station.

Among property seized by the
raiding officers were coining plant
machinery, and other material
believed to be connected with the
manufacture of Siam paper cur-
rency.

Yesterday, officials from the
Siam Consulate, a bank cashier
and others attended the Central
Detective Office to give the police
expert advice. Four men have
been taken into custody.

SIR ROBERTS' PLAN.

REUNIFICATION SCHEME IS RESUMED.

FOUNDER, ROUND NORTH.

At 8.30 this morning the M.M.
steamer "Angers" left for the North
with Sir Robert Ho Tung on board.
Sir Robert accompanied only by his
own people, there being no time for
his many friends to see him off.

Probably the whole Colony knows
that he has only been back from
Europe for a couple of weeks or so
and he is now on his way to Shang-
hai in connection with his round
table conference project.

It will be recalled that before Sir
Robert left here to attend the Wein-
bley Exhibition, as one of Hong-
kong's Commissioners, he had
established in Shanghai the
nucleus of a reunification committee
with a view to bringing China's
leaders together at the conference
table.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS.

Many enquiries have reached Sir
Robert regarding the prospects of
the Round Table Conference
scheme, and he has kindly told our
representative how the movement
has been faring. He said:—"While
I was in London, my Committee in
Shanghai held several meetings,
and they agreed on the following
principles, namely, that it would
not be advisable for them to have
too large a body of Committee
members or to attract unduly pub-
lic attention. Also, the Committee
were against the calling of any mass
meetings, on the ground that
hitherto mass meetings had never
brought any results, and they had
learned that certain people had
been making use of the Peace move-
ment for their own ends and not
entirely from disinterested
motives.

The Committee's first object was
an endeavour to effect a reconcilia-
tion between certain of the prin-
cipal belligerent leaders, but
without success. They also worked
very hard in trying to prevent the
outbreak of hostilities between
Chekiang and Kiangsu. On the 1st
November, when Sir Robert
arrived at Sabang, Sumatra, on his
journey back from Europe, he
wired to the Committee in Shang-
hai as follows:—"Recent political
events justify people's demand for
peace conference. Will your Com-
mittee meet and telegraph me
result?"

CHANGING SITUATION.

On the 3rd November, while he
was in Singapore, Sir Robert sent
a further telegram to Shanghai:—"Telegraph me by wireless steamer
"Colony" if you want me to come
quickly."

On the 11th November, two days
after his return to the Colony, he
received the following telegram
from the Committee in Shanghai:—"We have sent a circular telegram
in your name to the military
leaders. The political situation is
still unsatisfactory, we suggest you
proceed slowly, and there is no
hurry for you to come up."

Last week, however, on Friday
to be exact, another telegram
reached Sir Robert urging him to go
to Shanghai without delay, as the
Committee thought that the time
had arrived when the Conference
movement should be pressed for-
ward.

CHANGE OF PLANS.

It will be remembered that Sir
Robert first intended to return to
Hongkong via Siberia, but changed
his plan. He explains:
"As I had no opportunity of
seeing Marshal Chang Tso-lin in
1923, on the 20th August last,
while still in London, I sent him
a telegram stating that I intended
returning to Hongkong via Siberia,
and proposed to call on him at
Mukden if he would wire whether
he could receive me and afford me
protection. On the 23rd August,
I received the following telegram in
reply: "Your wire. Will give you
hearty welcome and full protection."
(Signed) Chang Tso-lin.

"On receipt of this telegram, I
immediately prepared to obtain
passports from the Soviet Govern-
ment for my journey across
Siberia. This procedure usually
occupies many weeks, but, with
the kind assistance of the Foreign
Office, I succeeded in getting the
Soviet Minister in London to agree
to let me have the passports with-
out referring the matter to Moscow.

"While I was making the final
preparations and on the point of
booking reservations for the jour-
ney, hostilities broke out between
Mukden and Peking, and after con-
sulting my friends, I had to come
to the conclusion that it would be
inadvisable for me to proceed to
Mukden, because the mere fact of
my meeting Marshal Chang Tso-lin
at that juncture, would undoubtedly
give rise to the impression that I
was not a neutral.

"It should be stated that my
object in desiring to interview
Marshal Chang Tso-lin was to have
a personal talk with him regarding
the Peace Conference question,
and I must say it was very grati-
fying to have received from him such
a ready and cordial invitation."

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Of the many elaborate film reproductions of the French Revolution which have been submitted to the public within recent years, this production is the most notable; the gorgeousness, stupendousness and sheer artistry in direction baffled description. It is a picture that is incomparable from many angles of production.

In tenderness, beauty of thought and treatment, its tremendous soul-stirring theme and magnificent character portrayals will stir spectators as they have never been moved before.

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KAN TONG PO
Chief Manager.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Shipping is warned that torpedoes will be fired at Lanchow on Thursday next, commencing at 9.30 a.m.

A death from cerebral apoplexy on the down trip of the "Sardinia" from Shanghai, has been reported.

A taxi driver has reported to the police that at 2 a.m., yesterday his car ran into five public rickshaws at Eastern Street. Several shafts were broken and other damage done to the rickshaws.

The usual Public Lecture will be given at the Hongkong Lodge, The Theosophical Society, 16, Queen's Road, Central, on Wednesday, November 26th, at 5.45 p.m. All are welcome.

Our Kongmoon correspondent reports that there is no change to record in the political situation in the Sze Yap districts. General Leung Hung-kai, the big man of the place, is busy preparing his "winter defence," as pirates are particularly active at this time of the year.

A cable from Norfolk, Virginia, states that, on Saturday, two bombing planes attacked the battleship "Washington" with fourteen inch armour-piercing bombs. It has not yet been ascertained whether any hit was registered on the target but the hull of the ship is still afloat.

The first of a series of concerts to be given from time to time at the Palace Hotel, Kowloon, was held last Saturday night and was a great success. The orchestra from the "President McKinley" provided the music. Among the singers was Mr. Felix Fullbrook of H.M.S. "Iroquois." Announcement of the next concert will be made in due course.

The two solicitors' clerks, charged with fraud and conspiracy in connection with certain property belonging to a concubine of Mr. Ho Kien-tong, were again before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistrate's yesterday afternoon. The complainant's son, Ho Sai-lok, was recalled and further examined by Mr. E. Davidson, the defending solicitor. The further hearing was adjourned.

For the first time since 1916 the ordinary Budget for 1925, introduced by the Dutch East Indies Government, shows a small surplus instead of the usual deficit. The total ordinary expenses amount to only 77 per cent. of those of 1921, and the extraordinary expenses are only 24 per cent. of those of the same year. The total deficit of the combined ordinary and extraordinary Budgets, including the naval expenses, is £38,000,000, which is £46,000,000 less than in the budget for 1924. For 1925 the Government will replace income-taxes and taxes on produce and oil by including corporation profits tax to 12½ per cent. in all. On rubber produced in the Dutch East Indies the Government will levy an export tax estimated to yield £500,000.

Four tons of unserviceable army cordite will be burnt by the military authorities at Stonecutters Island on Thursday morning next.

For failing to appear when summoned to sit on a Coroner's Jury, Mr. C. B. Shank, of the Chinese American Industrial Development Co., Ltd., was fined \$5 at the Kowloon Magistrate's this morning.

The Hongkong Women's Guild and Ministering Children's League are giving a Lantern Show for Children at the Helena May Institute to-morrow at 5.30 p.m. It is hoped that all League Children will be present.

Money and jewellery to the value of \$42 were stolen at about 4 o'clock this morning from a shop on the second floor of No. 126, Queen's Road Central. The thief entered the premises by a door which was left open.

A charge of leaving his car unattended near the Star Ferry station was preferred against Mr. A. N. Lucy, of the Hongkong Electric Company, at the Kowloon Magistrate's this morning. On the evidence of the constable being taken, however, the case resolved itself into one of driving on the wrong side of the road. The charge against the defendant was therefore dismissed.

The French Minister for Foreign Affairs, whose attention was called to the message of the Peking correspondent of "The Times," stating that 18 Breguet biplanes have been supplied by a French firm to Manchuria in contravention of the arms embargo Agreement of May 5, 1919, has issued the following explanatory statement:—The International Agreement [Arms Embargo] of 1919, the interpretation of which has been officially agreed upon between the interested Governments, excludes from the list of prohibited arms commercial aeroplanes unprovided with equipment which could give them a military character. The 20 commercial aeroplanes ordered from French private firms by the commercial representative of the Governor of Manchuria long before the beginning of the present political crisis are of a purely commercial type, and entirely devoid of anything in the way of armaments. The French Government, anxious to respect its obligation, officially inspected these machines when they were being packed, and it was only after this inspection that the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes was officially assured that the dispatch to China did not constitute any infraction of the French decree of November 8, 1919, which was issued in execution of the International Agreement of May 5, 1919. The French Government had no more right to prohibit the export of these aeroplanes by private manufacturers than it would have had to prohibit the export of motor-cars or other vehicles, the export of which is not prohibited by French law.

Owing to a breakdown in the organ at St. John's Cathedral, the recital advertised to take place this evening, has had to be cancelled.

For anchoring his craft in the cable reserve off Railway Pier, Kowloon, a native trading junk master was fined \$5 at the Marine Court this morning.

The loss of a sum of \$231, left in the pocket of a coat hanging in his bedroom last Sunday, is reported by Mr. J. F. Tavares, of No. 44, Rose Terrace, Kowloon.

The question of the Indian Mercantile Marine has been engaging the serious attention of the Indian Government for some time. While any decision on the bigger issues raised by the Committee must await more detailed and careful consideration, it is understood that Government has already made a definite move for the establishment of a training ship in India, and a request has been made to the Admiralty at Home to send out an expert officer who can work out definite proposals to promote the object in view. As soon as definite information is received from London that a suitable officer is available, the scheme will be placed before the Finance Committee for sanction.

The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, in its monthly survey, notes that it is wonderful news that the Shantung Christian College has been recognised as a University in the full sense. The British Government felt that it could not confer such a status upon a body outside the British Empire. But the Canadian Government has been able to do this honour to an institution which has thus won high commendation. It will now, of course, have the right to confer degrees. The same Society says it is not possible yet to announce what steps are to be taken in order to strengthen the Nippon sei Kokwai. The whole problem is in the hands of the Archbishop of Canterbury and of the Missionary Council of the Church Assembly. Here at home the wish is to do what the Church in Japan considers best. Apparently there is no doubt that the Church requests from England a Bishop for Kobe. The work established by the Church of England in Japan, the workers sent out by our Church, whether C.M.S. or S.P.G., are diminishing in numbers. There are no doubt, political questions also which affect the Christian Missions. Information is wanted. Would it be wise to send out someone, well qualified and wise, yet perhaps with no actual Japanese experience, with authority to collect all possible information, and to enlighten us at home? Another fact has also faced us of late, namely, the news that the Japanese Government has placed a tax of 100 per cent on all imported "luxuries." These articles, however, are the accustomed necessities of British and Americans. Still, it is an indication that we of the West should in Japan live more than we do as the Japanese.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

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SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

The engagement is announced of Miss Effie Grace Swanson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Swanson, and Mr. William Dick Brown, of the Chartered Bank, Bangkok, and elder son of the late Mr. James Brown of Dunfermline.

Dr. R. M. Cramer, of New York, and Dr. E. A. Ross, Professor of Sociology at Wisconsin, have arrived in Delhi to study the contemporary Indian mind by enquiries among, and interviews with, representative men throughout India and Ceylon. The doctors are expected to reach Colombo at the end of the year.

Dean Inge last month presided at the opening of the "Pudding Season" at Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese in Fleet Street, where he sat in the seat reputed to have been used by Dr. Johnson, in the candlelit dining-room, and made the first cut in the rump-steak, kidney, lark and oyster pudding served on these occasions. It was perhaps characteristic of Dean Inge that he, in his story-telling speech, have told a story against himself and expressed the belief that it was to be able to tell the story without seeing a great man, standing in his chair and saying, "Sir, you have no idea what a lark steak and cut."

The marriage took place at St. Andrew's Church, Colpetty, Ceylon, recently, of Mr. William George Murphy, of the Imperial Bank of India, Ltd., Calcutta, with Miss Mary Elizabeth Archer Crawford, who had just arrived from home.

A wedding is arranged to take place in the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Canton, on Sunday, November 30 at 11-30 between Mr. Jose Maria Concelcao and Miss Felita Caron Y. Hugas. The reception will be at the Victoria Hotel.

Mr. Julius S. Fisher has arrived in Kuala Lumpur in connection with the compilation of a "Who's Who in Malaya," of which he is editor and publisher. He is obtaining the biographies of leading members of the community for inclusion in the book, which is to be artistically produced, with photographs, and also with views of Malaya. Already he has secured the biographies of a large number of prominent personalities in Singapore.

A Batavia cable announces the arrival there of the Dutch alienist, A. message from the Hague states that in recognition of their feat, H.M. the "Queen" of the Netherlands has appointed Mr. Van der Hoop and officer Van Weerden Goelman Knights of the Orange-Nassau Order. The gold medal of the Order was conferred upon the mechanic Van der Broeke.

A Sale of Work will be held in the Compound of Union Church on Thursday, December 4, and will be opened by Lady Severn at 3 o'clock. The entire proceeds of the Sale are to be given to the Building Fund for the Ying Wah Girls' School, London Mission. There is a good assortment of plain and fancy articles suitable for Christmas presents; a varied selection of children's garments; a toy stall and bran tub for the children, sweet and cake stall etc. Admission is free, while tea can be obtained for 50 cents.

The Dollarliner s.s. "President Garfield," which arrived here yesterday, had the following passengers on board: Mr. Edouardo Daprich, Editor of the "Excelsior," Mexico City's foremost newspaper; Mr. E. H. Lohmann, of the Central National Bank, Oakland; Mr. A. Coyne, merchant of Honolulu, accompanied by Mrs. Coyne; Mr. Clara Shatto, one of the wealthiest residents of Los Angeles and the former owner of Catalina Island, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Whitney; Mr. Drew Chidester, shipping magnate of San Francisco, accompanied by Mrs. Drew Chidester. All these are making the world tour, accompanied by Mrs. Lohmann; Mr. A. Coyne, a family, are on their way for Colombo, while Mrs. Thompson, wife of the manager of the Manila Electric Co., is returning to her home in Manila.

AUTOMATIC PHONE.

DIRECT CALLS BETWEEN SUBSCRIBERS.

The General Post Office now regards the experimental stage of automatic telephony as being over, and a start is about to be made with the conversion of the London lines to the automatic system of operation. For some years eighteen provincial towns including Leeds, Southampton, Hereford, and Epsom have enjoyed the convenience of this system; and it has long been in use at St. Martin's-le-Grand itself between the different branches of the Post Office. But there must be many readers who do not appreciate the difference between the present and the automatic system, and without a clear perception of that they are unable to understand the time-saving which is inherent in the change, says the "Manchester Guardian".

Most people probably remember the magneto system of calling up the exchange, in which the subscriber turned the handle of a hand generator, and then lifted the receiver to his ear to listen. This was in course of time succeeded by the central battery system, now in universal operation, where the subscriber merely lifts his receiver from its rest. This action causes a lamp to glow on the switchboard at the exchange. An incident of this development was the abolition of the manual ringing up of the called subscriber, the telephonist at the exchange merely inserting a plug in an appropriate hole in the switchboard, which rings the called subscriber's bell continuously until an answer is made.

It is obvious that there would be a very considerable saving of time if one subscriber could directly call up another, and this is what the automatic system enables him to do. But all the telephone instruments must first be changed, and the telephone directory will have to be adapted to the renaming of certain exchanges and to a partial revision of the numbering system. A dial which will be attached to each instrument will bear the letters of the alphabet arranged in combination with figures; and a metal wheel over the dial, with spaces through which the dial can be read, will be turned by the subscriber to indicate the first three letters of the exchange he requires and the four figures (always four figures, for mechanical reasons) of the desired number. In cases where there are less than four figures ciphers must be prefixed to gain the mechanical effect. The automatic signal received in return signifies whether the line is clear or engaged.

LONDON AND MANCHESTER. These are the details of the automatic system as applied to London, which has 74 exchanges within the ten miles radius. In the case of more compact cities like Manchester, where the exchanges are relatively few, it will not be necessary to dial (for the system brings in a new verb) more than the first two letters of the exchange name. Why it has been decided to extend the automatic telephone to London forthwith rather than to, say, Manchester and Liverpool, where the change-over would not have involved so much labour and expense, is because the problems of the telephone in London increase and intensify in a peculiar degree, and every month's delay multiplies almost beyond calculation the labour and expense of a change which must be made at last.

Even though the work is being started upon now it will be long before even London can be said to have the automatic telephone. Probably before the end of 1926 two London exchanges will be purely automatic, but it is expected that it will take 15 years to convert the whole of the London telephone area to the system. Perhaps if the House of Commons is persuaded to make a generous grant for the purpose Manchester may be given the automatic telephone at least as soon as London, and thousands of valuable hours in the aggregate may be saved daily to the commercial community without a wasteful delay.

The Patani correspondent of the Siam Observer, writing under date November 3, states:—One of the survivors of the boat disaster which happened at Tumput last week has returned to Pattani. His tale is that a boat with 12 passengers went out to catch the steamer for Singapore, but was caught in a squall outside the bar and upset with the passengers and all their possessions. Two Malay men and two Malay women were drowned, but the others managed to hold on to bundles of mats and other wreckage until the harbour police came out with life boats and saved them. A preliminary enquiry was made and the witnesses who wanted to leave the country were allowed to do so after statements had been taken. The boatmen were arrested but were let out on bail of \$5,000 pending their trial. The man who told this tale was returning to India with a friend, but their savings of over \$1,000 and their goods were all lost.

HIS LAST ACT.

TRAGEDY OF BROKEN MILLIONAIRE.

London, October 5.—It was disclosed yesterday by a friend of the dead man that Mr. Rowett's last act before committing suicide was to telephone to a nursing-home where a close friend of his was visiting his sick child.

The child's father was at the bedside, and Mr. Rowett could not get through to him on the telephone. It is possible that had the despairing man been able to speak to his friend he might have secured enough encouragement to pull him through his hour of terror and pain.

The secret of Mr. Rowett's rise to fortune, which I am now able to reveal, writes a representative of "The People," is an almost incredible merchant adventure.

Coincidence—the chance in a million—gave him suddenly huge riches.

A few weeks before the outbreak of war Mr. Rowett ordered six casks of rum to be transhipped to him from abroad.

The order was misinterpreted, and the six casks arrived as six cargoes!

The merchant was staggered. He could not handle such a consignment, and certainly could not pay for it.

RICH IN A MOMENT. Then war broke out, and at once rum was in enormous demand for the troops. Mr. Rowett was the only man with such quantities, and he secured the Army and Navy contracts.

He was a strangely simple man, almost childlike at times, and he was bewildered at the way in which the money poured in upon him.

The war over, and with time to look around him and spend some of his fortune, he wanted to go adventuring—to climb Everest, to carry the flag to the Pole, to send airships to the moon.

But home pulled. None of his money was wasted. He spent much of it on building a home for the wife and children he adored, and to his palatial place at Frant, near Tunbridge Wells, very few strangers, and only the most intimate friends, were admitted.

So, instead of going off on the long trail himself, he helped others. Shackleton and he were boys at school together and there was no call that Shackleton could not make on him.

DEATH PROPHECY. "Last summer I was staying with him at Frant," a friend of Mr. Rowett's said yesterday. "At that time he had lost £100,000 in the failure of Sir John Stewart the whisky distiller, who shot himself. The Shackleton expedition had had cost him £70,000, and his troubles were increasing.

"We were sitting out in the garden before dinner. Behind us blazed masses of Japanese rhododendrons, orange and red and yellow, and the sun was setting behind them.

"It's sunset for me, old man," he said, and I'd rather go out in a blaze than just peter out. You know," he added, turning to me with an air of discovery, "I couldn't be a little man, now, could I?"

"I assured him that things would right themselves, but he could not be comforted. Later on, in the library, he took me to see Shackleton's flag, a gift from the King. It was given to Rowett after Shackleton's death.

"Perhaps I'll be remembered for that," he said. "Poor old S. A peaceful death in the white star-shine of the Antarctic. Mine will be a more stormy end.

"He never recovered from the Stewart failure. Rowett got in a panic. He was thinking of his children, of his good name. 'I can't be classed with people like Whitaker Wright, can I?' he said. He was assured that he would not be. Yet he talked wildly of prosecution, though there was never the slightest idea of such a thing; bankruptcy was the very worst he had to face.

"He received every consideration from his creditors. He certainly would not have pulled things back to the old level, but he would have made quite a good recovery if only he had kept his head.

BROKEN TOYS. "These things—the wonderful house, the dairy farm, the stud farm—they're just toys," I said to him, a few days ago, "and you and Mrs. Rowett, essentially simple folks, will be happier now they're all broken."

"Yes, they're just toys," he said to me. But think of the tragedies that dog me—Stewart with his brains blown out—Shackleton dead out there in the very pines of life. It's as if I'm cursed."

"I told him he had nothing to fear, but he couldn't bear his troubles any longer.

"He was just a little boy who had got his sums wrong, and slunk out of school rather than face the masters."

ROXOR

TRAFFIC CONTROL.

EXPERIMENT WITH SIGNALS IN PARIS.

Tests were made, in the Place de l'Opera, of a novel method of controlling street traffic by means of luminous signals, worked from a central post. To give the scheme an exhaustive trial eleven large electric signal lamps, fitted in front and behind with deep red glass have been installed in the Place, in such a manner that each commands one of the lines of traffic that use the square.

Each lamp is fixed fifteen feet from the ground, and all are electrically controlled from a post bearing a switchboard. By turning a switch all the lamps in the system are turned on or off as circumstances require. The glass of each lamp on the side nearest approaching traffic is inscribed with the word "halt" in large letters, the reverse side of the lamp being clear red glass like a railway signal. The system is based on the idea of stopping or sending forward traffic simultaneously at each crossing in alternative and more or less uniform batches, first north and south and then east and west.

EXPECTED ECONOMY. It is intended, if the scheme is brought into full practical operation, to dispense with the guardian policeman and to control traffic by the signals alone. Similar posts are being installed at the Madeleine and other points along the boulevard. The cost of installing each lamp is stated to be 2,500 francs. It is estimated that this expenditure will be recouped within five years, because of the economy expected to result from the reduction in the number of police required for traffic control. At the Place de l'Opera alone, where 27,000 francs has been spent on equipment, it will be possible to reduce the number of police on duty by four.

In view, however, of the enormous amount of traffic passing through the Place de l'Opera, which has been proved by an actual count to exceed that at the Mansion House, London, it is proposed to retain at his post the mounted policeman, who has for some months been on duty every afternoon in the centre of the road, where he can command all approaches. His duty in the future, if the signalling system tested comes into permanent use, will be to report to the signaller any accidents or other disturbing factors which he may observe, in order that exceptional measures may immediately be taken to prevent the whole system from being thrown out of gear.

He mentions the Soviet Consulate established at Jeddah "to spread Leninist propaganda among pilgrims, whereby Russians hope that it would be carried to all parts of the Mohammedan world."

EXTRAORDINARY DISPUTE. "HOLY MAN" BURIED IN MARKET.

Calcutta, October 24.—The burial of an alleged Mohammedan holy man in the precincts of the Central Market, Calcutta, continues to excite widespread comment, and a writer in "Capital" tells a remarkable story. He says: "The local legend of the week is of a Madras impostor who began his public career in the Sessions Court, which sentenced him to transportation for life for murder, and ended it in the odour of sanctity with a public funeral and burial in the St. Stuart Hogg Market, above all places in the world. The excitement of the populace has been intense and while this lot clamours for the collective head of the Municipal Executive on a charger, that lot, the larger crowd, hustles in a pilgrimage to the grave with offerings of money, flowers, sweets and other dainties. A goat or cow has not yet been slaughtered to appease the spirit, but all in good time. The Madras impostor appeared in the Market in the guise of a dumb mendicant from nobody knew where. He became a public nuisance and so the Superintendent tried to eject him, using, it is said, more violence than necessary or judicious. Mendicancy, no matter how atrociously flagrant, is holy in India and Ramswamy the Silent immediately became the saint of the stall-holders, who are for ever in conflict with authority. By a strange coincidence, a big fire which some dozen years ago destroyed a substantial portion of the market followed close upon the ejection and the victim incidentally became the incarnation of the Prophet of old who called down fire from Heaven to destroy unbelievers. He accepted his saintship with a skilful pride that aged humanity. He closed his lips tighter than ever and looked to his worshippers to wash, feed and clothe him with no other appeal than the mystery of silence. His knowledge of the human nature was profound, and his faith was rewarded to the full. He made his pitch near the meat market and none dared eject him."

Snake in the Grass. Cambridge very nearly lost the services of A. T. Young, the Rugby captain, as a result of what a doctor would call a mistaken diagnosis. He was playing golf at East London, when he came across what he thought was a harmless snake on the ninth green. Remarking that he had better knock it out of the way, he hit it with his iron, and killed it. A South African then told him that it was a puff adder, which has a fatal bite.

When Dreaded Omen Comes. "A thing of dread, that comes in the night without warning, just a heavy metallic cough, a choking, gasping, breath, a threat of suffocation. Oh the relief of knowing that there is a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in the house! You know it clears away the choking phlegm, stops the hoarse cough, and brings rest and sleep to the little sufferer. Sold everywhere."

HEDJAZ OUTLOOK.

A "LAND OF DARK HORSES."

London, November 5.—Blaming Hussein's uncompromising behaviour for his downfall, the "Manchester Guardian" says that, with Emir Ali still exiled from Mecca, Mr. Philby, who has been hurried out to the Hedjaz, should find it easier than his predecessors to arrange a settlement.

The paper adds that, in the unlikely event of Ibn Saud retaining Mecca, there is no reason to suppose that he would treat pilgrims worse than the Turks or Hussein treated them, and provided that he does not offend the Moslem world, we have no quarrel with him.

The "Manchester Guardian" thinks that Great Britain's policy in Arabia hitherto has been over-influenced by enthusiastic experts and shaped by variously opinionated Government Departments. Consequently, it has been very expensive and rather indecisive, but the rise of the Wahabi leader should warn us in future not to put money on any single horse in that land of dark horses.

HUSSEIN EXPLAINED. The "Daily Chronicle" gives prominence to a despatch from Jeddah describing the perils and horrors of the pilgrimage to Mecca. The writer asserts that 17 per cent. of British Muslim pilgrims died this year. Referring to accommodation on ships he says: "The Haj begins for many with something like a Black Hole of Calcutta." Hussein, by his taxes, subsidies, and "brutal exploitation" of the pilgrim and hard-hearted misappropriation of Haj charitable funds, "has amassed a fortune of at least £5,000,000. The correspondent refers to the Hedjaz officials' 'howl of anger' against the deposit of Rs. 60 by pilgrims from India before their departure, whereby the pilgrim will have Rs. 60 less to be robbed of, and urges the establishment of better administration in the Hedjaz on which all prominent Muslim countries will be represented."

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BLIGHTED ROMANCE.

"AUSSIE" SOLDIER AND KENTISH MAID.

London, October 5.—Coincidence in fiction assumes some strange forms, but there has rarely been a more remarkable example of it than in the real-life story of an Australian soldier and a Kentish maid, whose broken war-time romance was related to the Bromley magistrates. In 1918 the Vicar of Christ Church, Beckenham, was the Rev. C. Harrington Lees, and when he united the couple he little thought that their affairs would be brought again to his notice many thousands of miles away. A few years ago the rev. gentleman became Archbishop of Melbourne, whither the Australian husband had gone. The wife, lonely and deserted in England, wrote to the Archbishop, appealing to him to intervene with her erring spouse. Mrs. Rosina Bermonia Marion Kate Stone told her story when applying for a maintenance order which could be enforced to the State of Victoria. Her husband, she stated, was born in the Beckenham district, and theirs had been a boy and girl romance. They had gone to school together. Fourteen years ago he went to Australia, and when the war came he joined up and served in France. They renewed their acquaintanceship when he was in England on leave, and ultimately they became engaged and married. They lived together for 12 months, and then he returned to Australia for his discharge. Owing to her delicate state of health she could not go with him. After the birth of the child witness obtained her papers and sent them to him. Her husband sent the papers back to Australia House, and she was informed there that he refused to sign them. In 1920 she received a letter from him in which he stated that he had "made a mess of things and did not want to return to Beckenham." In 1921 he wrote informing her that there was a girl in Australia who was the only girl he would ever care for, and witness must take what action she thought fit. In a subsequent letter he asked her to divorce him, and added that if she came out to him he would keep her, but would not live with her. Witness had since communicated with the Australian police, and in consequence of a reply they, she wrote to the Archbishop from Melbourne.—The Rev. Frederick Parsons, Vicar of St. Barnabas, South Melbourne, related that about the middle of May, 1923, the Archbishop of Melbourne passed a letter on to him, and he interviewed the husband of applicant. Witness told him he held a letter from his wife, who wanted to know what he was prepared to do to support her. Stone admitted being a married man with one child, but was passing off locally as a bachelor. He made accusations against his wife. He agreed to support her if she came out to Australia, but under no circumstances would he live with her, as he had no affection for her. He stated that he did not want her out there, and added that he was very friendly with a single girl he knew before he went to England. She was aware that he was married, and was willing to remain friendly towards him. Stone added that he had not lived with the girl or committed himself with her, they merely went to places of amusement together. He earned about £5 a week. When witness came to England he found that the accusations Stone had made about his wife were not true.—The Bench made a provisional order for the payment of 30s. per week to the wife and 10s. per week for the child.

MOVEMENT OF STEAMERS.

The P. & O. s.s. "Morro" from Hongkong arrived at London on Nov. 21 at 8 a.m.

The P. & O. s.s. "Kalyan" left London for China and Japan on Nov. 21 at 8 p.m.

The E. F. s.s. "Helena" arrived at London on Nov. 22.

The A.O.L. s.s. "Pres. Jackson" from China and Japan on Nov. 21 at 8 p.m. and is due here tomorrow a.m.

The B. F. s.s. "Diamant" from New York left Hullo on Nov. 23 for this port and is due here tomorrow.

The B. F. s.s. "Takla Fanny" will leave here at daylight today and will sail for Yokohama direct tomorrow morning.

The B. F. s.s. "Telamon" from Liverpool left Singapore on Nov. 21 for this port and is due here tomorrow.

The C.P.S. R.M.S. "Empress of Australia" is due at Hongkong on Nov. 27 at 4 a.m. and will berth at Pier No. 5 Kowloon.

The B. F. s.s. "Telamon" from Liverpool left Singapore on Nov. 21 for this port and is due here on Nov. 28 at about 5 a.m.

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TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TO BE LET.

TO BE LET.—5-Roomed House, Mountain View, The Peak, from 1st June, 1925. Fully Furnished. Apply Box 323 c/o "China Mail."

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

THURSDAY, 27th Nov., 1924, at 11.30 a.m., at Nam Wo Hong's Godown, No. 152, Connaught Road West.

(more or less damaged) 81 Bags White Rice Meal 18 Bags White Rice (more or less damaged)

Terms:—Cash on delivery. LAMBERT BROS., Auctioneers.

by order of the concerned on SATURDAY, 28th Nov., 1924, commencing at 11 a.m., at their Sales Room, Duddell Street, One Complete "Nero" Hand Ice Machine

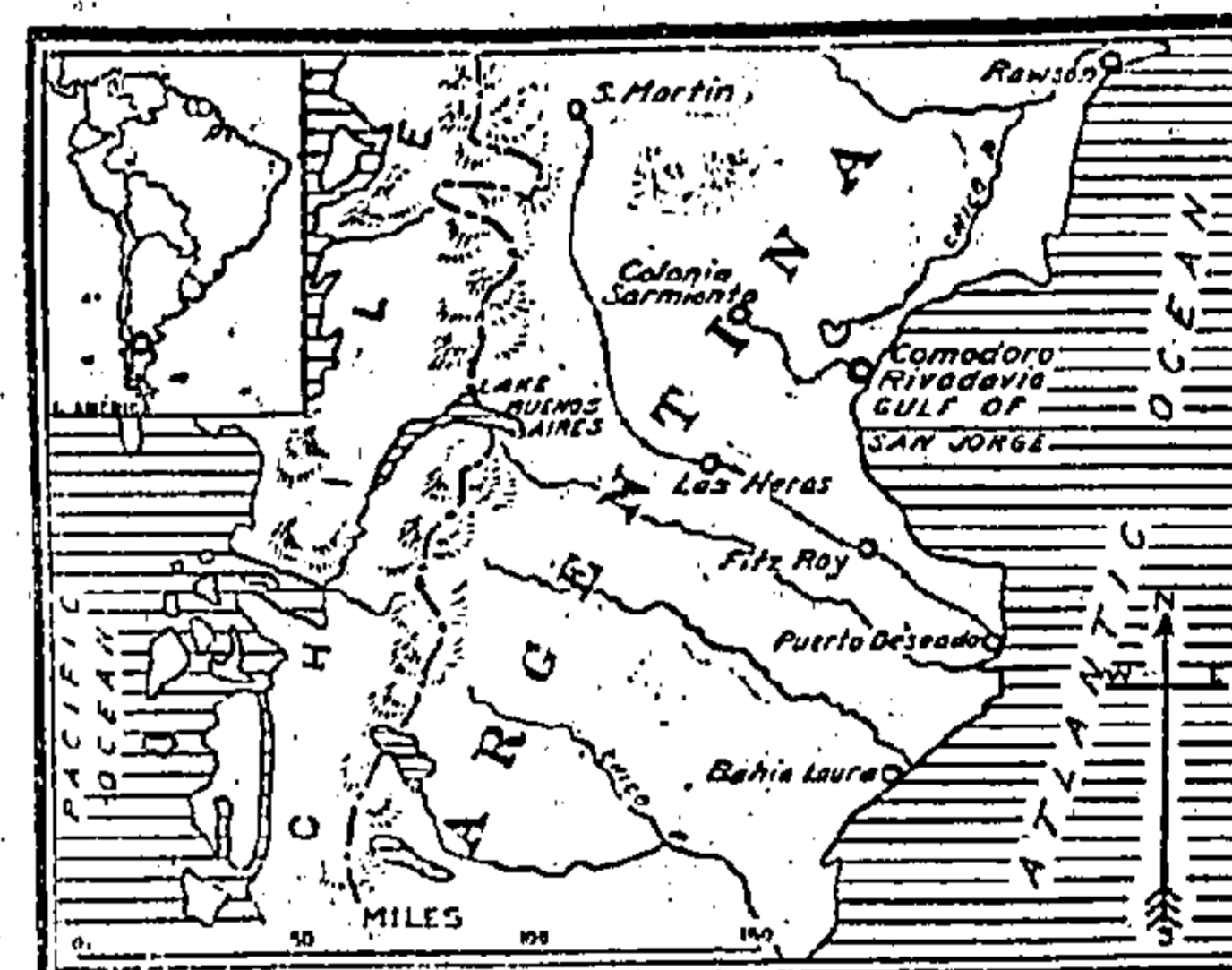
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PRINCESS MARY'S SECOND SON.



ULICK DAVID LASCELLES, INF.

This is the first picture of Ulick David Lascelles, second son of Princess Mary. The child was christened at Goldsbrough Church. The naming of the child is said to have caused a breach with her royal parents, who were not present at the christening.

French Baron's Son Held at Ellis Island



PHILIPPE NOTTINGUER

Philippe Nottinguer, son of Baron Nottinguer, of France, awarded a scholarship at Harvard University by the Harvard Club of France, finally reached Boston, but only after he had been detained at Ellis Island immigration station, New York harbour, for four days, owing it is said, to a blunder. The American Ambassador in Paris has taken the matter up with Washington.

GAVE AWAY HIS FORTUNE.



EDWARD W. WASHBURN

Because, he said, his wife and daughters made him out at a separate table and made life miserable for him, Edward Washburn gave his business there, worth \$100,000 to his family and disappeared. For time it was thought he had committed suicide. Now he has been found clerking in a store for £3 week. He says he is happy.

FOUR BROTHERS MARRY FOUR SISTERS OF SAME NAME.



FOUR STONESIFER COUPLES, INF.

Here are four unique families. Four Stonesifer brothers married four Stonesifer sisters. Although the names are identical, the families are not related. William Stonesifer was married to Ida Marchella Stonesifer in 1915. In 1917 Harry Raymond Stonesifer was married to Gertrude Stonesifer, and in 1917 Lester Eugene Stonesifer won Joanna Stonesifer. The youngest of the Stonesifer sisters became Mrs. Oak Stonesifer in September of this year. There are two more Stonesifer brothers and two more sisters, and the local pastor, who performed all the ceremonies expects to perform two more ere long.

YOUTH & WOMAN IN MURDER TRIAL.



Love existing between Mrs. Anne Willow, more than twice his age caused Ralph Shadle, 17, to kill Mrs. Willow's husband with a shotgun according to his own confession. Mrs. Willow corroborated his statement. The boy declared Mrs. Willow made love to him and he killed at her urging so that he could have her to himself. Both are in jail.

Under Arrest.



WALTER SHEAN

Walter Shean wanted to be a bad man, so he left the home of his wealthy father to try burglary, according to the charges of the police, who arrested him as an alleged accomplice of Gerald Chapman, master criminal, wanted for killing a policeman who caught him blowing a safe.

FIGURES IN THE NEWS SPOTLIGHT.



GEORGE W. B. STALIN & VICENTE BLASCO IBAÑEZ
J. HAVELOCK WILSON & MRS. MABEL GILMAN COREY

Mrs. Mabel Gilman Corey, divorced wife of the American steel magnate, was at one time reported engaged in Paris to Prince Luis Ferdinand of Spain, who had been deported from France and whose honours have been taken from him by the King of Spain, whose cousin he is, because of his indiscretions. M. Stalin, Soviet Minister of Nationalities, has been stabbed in the shoulder in Moscow by a Georgian named Haischwill, who then killed himself. J. Havelock Wilson, President of the International Seafarers' Federation, with a membership of 2,000,000 sailors, has taken up the question of the rights of seamen with the immigration authorities. Vicente Blasco Ibañez, author of the "Four Horsemen," "Blood and Sand" and other famous novels, has bitterly attacked King Alfonso of Spain, declaring the "degenerate Alfonso," and not the military dictatorship, is to blame for Spanish catastrophes in the Moroccan war.

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BRINGING UP FATHER.

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